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10/20/80, ext. 28671
Cleared: EUR/SOV:RRGerman AD for
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E-364

October 22, 1980

Dear Mr. Butler:

I am replying to your letter of September 25 concerning
Raoul Wallenberg.

The United States Government has been concerned over the
fate of Raoul Wallenberg since the case first came to light at
the end of World War II. We have taken every appropriate
opportunity to ask Soviet authorities for a clarification on
the Wallenberg case. When recent reports came to light which
we hoped might indicate the possibility that Wallenberg might
still be alive, we raised the matter with the Soviets on
numerous occasions throughout 1979. They finally answered,
formally and in writing, in February of this year, stating that
Wallenberg had died in July of 1947. They also informed the
Swedish Government of this finding and they indicated that they
would have no further information on Wallenberg in the future.

You may be interested to know that our most recent efforts
to confirm reports about Wallenberg through interviews with
Soviet dissidents and emigres have again failed to produce any
information to support the possibility that Wallenberg might
still be alive.

There is no question, however, that the Wallenberg case
remains a concern for all who value human rights. His acts
that saved the lives of thousands of Hungarian Jews during
World War II showed courageous dedication to the concept of
human rights. We will continue to make known our concern for
the fate of Raoul Wallenberg and those like him who have
suffered for their defense of human rights.

Sincerely,

J. Brian Atwood
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

The Honorable
M. Caldwell Butler,
House of Representatives.

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